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based upon proper motions and parallaxes. The half-dozen determinations by STRUVE, STUMPE, BOSS and others all place the direction of motion between the limits

$$\begin{array}{l} 252^{\circ} \text{ and } 290^{\circ} \text{ for Right Ascension,} \\ \text{and } + 14^{\circ} \text{ and } + 51^{\circ} \text{ for Declination.} \end{array}$$

It will be noticed that the Potsdam results both lie far outside these limits in Right Ascension, and very near the upper limit in Declination.

By assuming the direction determined by L. STRUVE,

$$R. A. = 266^{\circ}.7, \quad Dec. = + 31^{\circ}.0,$$

and solving for the velocity as the only unknown quantity, Dr. KEMPF obtained

$$\text{Velocity} = 7.64 \pm 1.84 \text{ English miles.}$$

As a result of the investigation Prof. VOGEL concludes that the data of observation are not extensive enough to furnish with any certainty the co-ordinates of the point towards which the solar system is moving; but that the observations, few as they are, determine the velocity of the motion more satisfactorily than do the earlier investigations which were based upon the apparent proper motions and the very uncertain distances of the stars.

W. W. C.

UNIVERSAL TIME.

The bill declaring the legal time for Germany to be that of the 15th meridian east of Greenwich passed the third reading on February 16. It is to come into force on April 1. In a letter addressed to the Astronomer Royal, it is stated by Dr. SCHRAM that a similar bill has been laid before the Austrian Parliament, and it is hoped that the change will be made simultaneously with Germany. The draft of the Austrian bill provides—

I. That the legal time in Austria is the mean solar time of the meridian 15° east of Greenwich. The same is to replace on April 1, 1893, the present local times for legal, civil, and all other purposes.

II. The Government is authorized to make the changes in the school and industrial hours, which will become necessary in consequence of the adoption of the above.—From *The Observatory*, March, 1893.